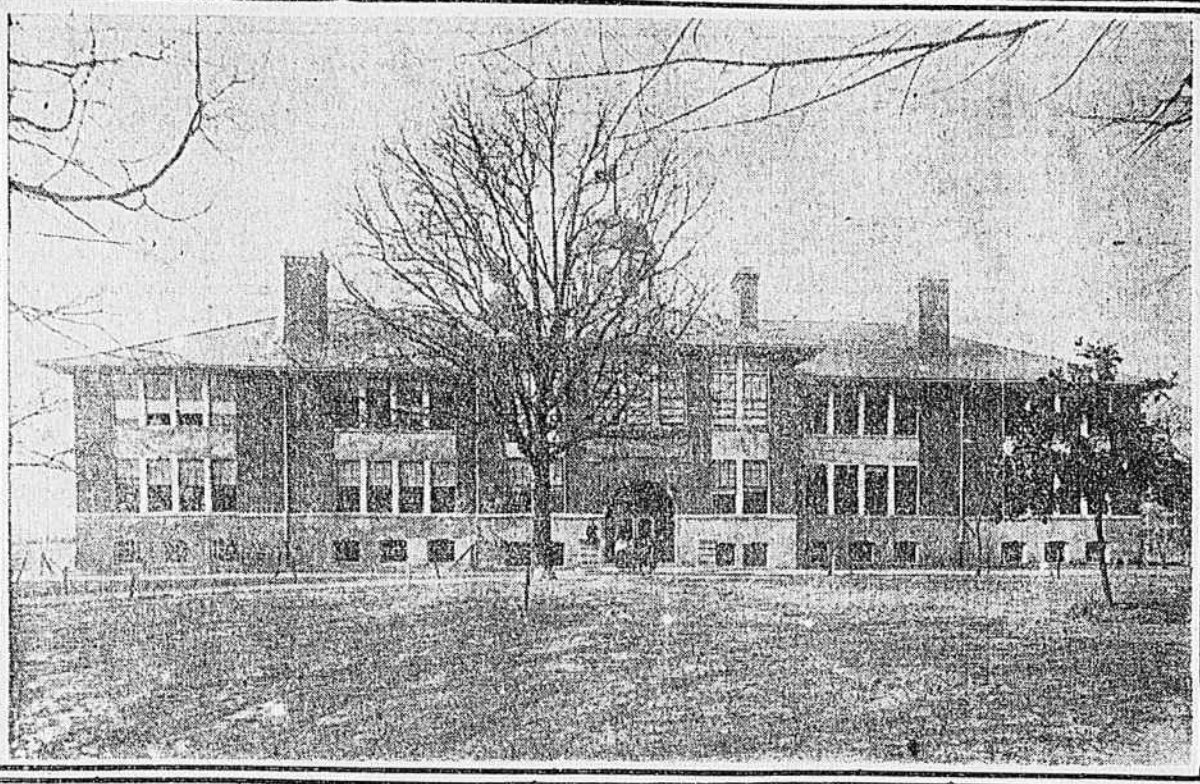
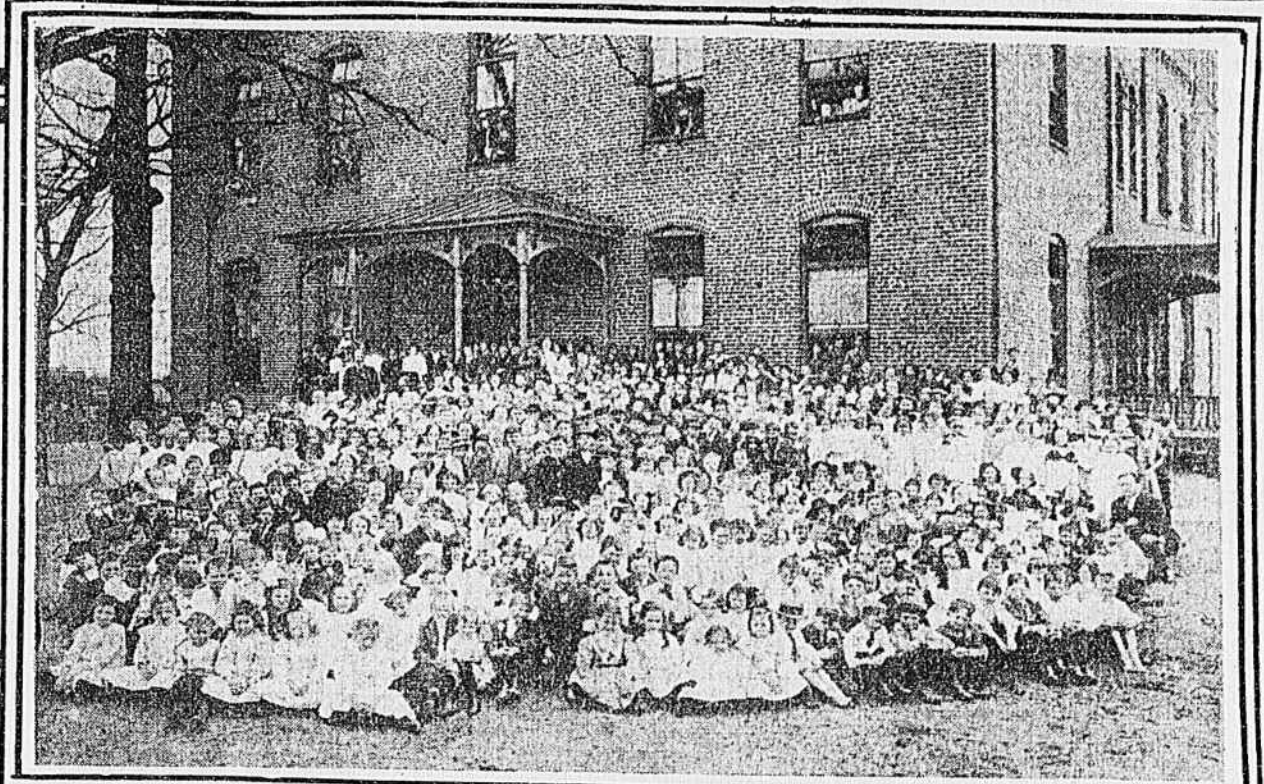


Danville Schools Show Remarkable Growth



RISON PARK SCHOOL.



BELLEVUE STREET SCHOOL.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
DANVILLE, VA., January 27.—The public schools in Danville have shown a remarkable growth in the past three years and are now recognized among the best in the State of Virginia; that is, if the opinion of several prominent educators who have visited the city are to be considered. The school property has increased from \$24,000 to \$155,000 in just three years, which is an increase of nearly 200 per cent, while the attendance upon the public schools shows an increase of 225 per cent, or about 125 more pupils than at this time last year. These are at present employed in the schools of Danville sixty-five teachers, an increase of three over last year.

There are four white schools here, including the high school, three in South Danville, and one on the north side of the river. The Bellevue School, which has the largest enrollment, while the Rison Park and Robert E. Lee Schools, the latter formerly the Loyal Street School, are located on the south side, along with the high school. Unfortunately, the latter is without a separate building. The School Board recently purchased a very desirable lot on Grove Street, at the head of Chestnut Place, and in the near future will erect a handsome and commodious high school building.

The School Board about three years ago saw the necessity of building another school in the West End, owing to the crowded condition of the Loyal Street School, which was forced to accommodate all of the pupils from the south side and some of the pupils from the north side. The city purchased old Rison homestead on High Street, in the heart of the fashionable residential section, and on the site of the old Rison home built the Rison Park School. This school, the largest in the city, second to none in the State of Virginia. It has three stories, including the basement, which will be fitted up for manual training, and playrooms for the scholars to be

used in bad weather.

A feature of the Rison Park School is the large auditorium. The school grounds cover several acres, and is located in a grove of most beautiful oaks, though the accompanying cut does not do the grounds justice, as the picture was taken in the winter. The recreation grounds are to the rear, while the front is beautifully turfed, and with its stately old oaks looks

more like a well kept park than a school.

The Robert E. Lee School, now in course of construction, is about completed. The Rison Park School, including its spacious grounds, represents an outlay of about \$65,000. Professor John L. Berkeley is the principal of the Rison Park School.

Even after the Rison Park School was built, the Loyal Street School be-

came just as crowded as ever, making the erection of another school imperative. The old building was torn down the first part of the summer and the Robert E. Lee School is being built on the same site—in a grove of maples—and representing an outlay of \$27,138 for the building alone. This school will have the most modern heating plant in the State, and the expense has been spared on the heating and vent-

ilating apparatus. The ventilating will be so arranged by an automatic device that when the room reaches a certain temperature the air will be cut off without the janitor's assistance. It has the only automatic humidifier of any school in Virginia. Drinking fountains have been installed in every room, and the rooms are fitted up with slate blackboards and individual ad-

justable unbreakable-steel desks.

When finished the Robert E. Lee School will have fourteen classrooms, three administration-rooms and an auditorium. The school, which is of brick, two stories high and a basement, will be thoroughly modern and up-to-date in every detail, and while a trifle smaller than the Rison Park School, it will not lack any of the features of

that school. The entire basement will be fitted up for the manual training department and the play-rooms for the scholars to be used in inclement weather. The commercial department will be in charge of Professor J. W. Cook, who has had years of experience along this line. This department will be a valuable addition to the work of the public schools of Danville. The pupils will be thoroughly prepared for this line of work and will be required to pass rigid examinations before being allowed to take positions.

The rooms in this school will be large and airy and will have a plenty of sunlight, there being four windows in each of the rooms. There will also be three entrances to the building, one from Ridge Street, one from Loyal Street, and another from the southwest side of the building. Professor C. S. Wheatley is the principal of the Robert E. Lee School.

The high school, also badly cramped for want of room, will occupy quarters in the Lee School until the high school is built on the lot recently purchased from Edmund Meade, on Grove Street. Professor Ernest McNutt is the principal of the high school.

The Bellevue School, representing an estimated outlay of \$12,000, is located in North Danville, and is in a flourishing condition, with an enrollment of seven hundred and thirty-five—the largest enrollment of any school in the city—and has grown so as to make the addition of another teacher necessary. Professor C. B. Owens is the principal of the Bellevue Street School. Prof. Winford, on a recent visit to Danville, declared the location of the Bellevue School the most beautiful he had ever seen. The building, which is of brick, is situated on a high elevation overlooking the south side, and from its windows an excellent view of the manufacturing plants along the river front is obtained. The council has purchased a lot adjoining the school property, and many improvements are being planned among them the building of an auditorium.

PENPED BY
WALLACE IRWIN

THE GREAT MAN'S PRIMER OR GUIDE to SUCCESS

PICTURED BY
E. W. KEMBLE



"Some cyclone from Kansas."

BE-HOLD Uncle Nelson Aldrich in the act of thinking! Has he not a beautiful face? Tastes differ. What do you suppose he is thinking about? Search him. He seems to be up-lifted and inspired—does Uncle Nelson ever indulge in poetic visions?

Of-ten! His Central Bank, for instance.

What is a Central Bank?

A sort of financial Gibraltar, so skillfully adjusted that every banker makes ten per cent.

except the Government, which makes two. It is a wonderment system. No-one has lost a cent by it yet.

Right again, Mr. Bones. The Central Bank is a great Principle—the only difficulty now is to make the interest.

Banking must be a very hard science to master.

Not so very. A bank is like an automobile—anybody can run one, but few can make it pay. Uncle Nelson's idea is to run our Banks so skillfully that a financial crisis will be un-

known in the future.

What is a financial crisis? Among the rich it is a panic in Wall Street, among the poor it is the time when the Rent Collector comes around.

If Uncle Nelson is going to a-bol-ish rent col-lect-tors, I think I will support his Bank!

Alen! Let us change the subject and take up the career of Mr. Aldrich scheduled by schedule, as it were. In the year 1841 the State of Rhode Island rejoiced in the birth of a Fay-or-ite Son. "Great oaks from little acorns grow," as El-la Wheeler Wilcox sings in her spicy way. When Nelson was a-ged four years he was given a lit-tle boy savings bank by his fond parents. The idea was put in a pen-ny a day as a cam-paign con-tribution toward his col-lege edu-ca-tion. But ere the dawn of his fifth birth-day Nelson had learned a way of ex-tract-ing the pen-nies from the bank by means of standing that in-sti-tu-tion on its head and jig-gling it until the specie dropped out through the slot in the roof. Nelson proud-father caught Nelson in the act, so he de-scended on Nelson like a Demo-cra-tic land-slide. After re-proach-ing the child with an old New Eng-land warn-ing pan, Father removed the Bank and locked it a-way in the fam-ily safe. This gave the bright boy his first idea for a Central Bank which would keep the mon-ey of the small fin-an-cier out of tem-pa-tion's way, guarded by a sort of Ben-e-volent Des-pot-ism.

From that day Nelson lived

NELSON W. ALDRICH

eagerly for-ward to his twenty-eighth year, when he was e-lected to the Com-mon Coun-cil of Providence.

Provi-dence always re-wards the de-serv-ing.

When the germ of pol-i-tics is in a man you can never tell what lit-tle thing will send him reck-less-ly off on the up-ward path. It's like the old tem-per-ance story of the boy who tast-ed brandy sauce on plum pud-ding and ended up in the reptil-ian ward of the Home for In-e-bri-ates. One taste of Com-mon Council was suf-fi-cient to rouse Nelson to a fren-zy of thirst. After that life was to him just one darn e-lec-tion after a-noth-er. He de-vel-oped a ten-den-cy to dom-i-nate, and soon be-came the cham-pion Boy Dom-i-na-tor of New Eng-land. When he went to the State Leg-is-la-ture in 1875 he stood out like Ty Cobb in a news-boy's line. They tried to break his spirit by send-ing him to the U. S. Senate. That was in 1881. Until recently re-e-lect-ing Ald-rich has been the prin-ci-pal in-dus-try of Rhode Island. But times change. Some of our in-dustries are not so in-dus-tri-ous as they used to be.

What has Mis-ter Ald-rich stood for, prin-ci-pal-ly, in his Sen-a-tor-ial career?

The en-cour-age-ment of In-sur-gents.

Come again!

I speak in all serious-ness. It is not gen-er-al-ly known how Mr. Ald-rich's heart bled for the

In-sur-rec-tos in th re-cent up-ward re-duc-tion of the Tar-iff. Not that he was os-ten-ta-tious in his friend-ship. That is not Nelson's way. He is a quiet, gen-tle man. But when, in the course of de-bate, some cy-clone from Kansas would rise up and pro-ceed to kick the Little Dip-pler into the Milky Way, you might be sure the dem-on-stration was in re-sponse to some quiet word or deed com-ing from Uncle Nelse.

It was the kind of en-cour-age-ment you give a mule when you stick a burr un-der his sad-dle. Uncle's erst-while pol-i-ti-cal op-po-nents have no right to speak bit-ter-ly of him. In se-cret he enter-tains the warm-est feeling for many of them. For in-stance, he loves The o-dore Roosevelt like a brother—

Like which?

Like a bro-ther, Cain and A-bel were broth-ers, you know.

How does Uncle Nelse stand on The Re-call?

He votes Yes and No. He does not be-lieve in the av-er-age Vot-er go-ing through Wash-ing-ton like an in-tox-i-cated Mar-im-er re-call-ing every-body, right and left. But if Cum-mins, La Fol-l-et and Poin-dex-ter should be re-called by an in-di-gnant con-sti-tu-ency ex-Sen-a-tor Nelson W. Ald-rich would be the last to pro-test. This shows that he is broad with-in his lim-i-ta-tions.

Now that Uncle Nelse is re-tired I suppose he sits all day with his hands fold-ed?

He does. But his hands are fold-ed over a plan that stand-ard-izes all the loose change on the Amer-i-can Con-ti-nent. And that's some car-fare.

That must be a great deal of trouble for an old man.

To one who has boost-ed Sched-ule K through a whole ses-sion of Cong-ress there is no such word as Trou-ble. At the age of sev-en-ty he can change

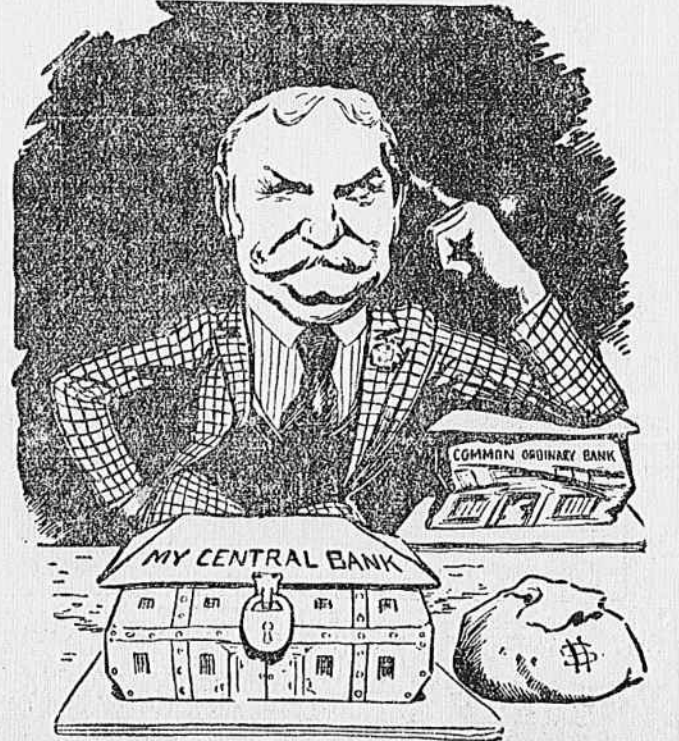
the Constitution of the United States into a per-man-ent and in-ex-haus-tible check-book. And that is some-thing for an ei-der-ly man to do.

I have learned my les-son, Teach-er.

Let us have it, Buster.

"When a man re-tires from his Car-er he gets time to do his Life Work."

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"Has he not a beautiful face?"